

**MICHIGAN DOMESTIC VIOLENCE PREVENTION  
AND TREATMENT BOARD**

**MEETING MINUTES  
September 26, 2003**

**\*\*\* APPROVED – DECEMBER 8, 2003 \*\*\***

**Members Present:**

James A. Fink, Chair  
Ferne Farber  
Shirley Mann Gray  
The Honorable Edward Sosnick (By telephone to vote on particular motions)

**Members Absent:**

Michelle Hayes  
The Honorable Darnell Jackson  
Catherine Christ Lucas

**Staff Present:**

Debi Cain, Executive Director  
Michelle Bynum  
Carol Hackett Garagiola  
Penny Hackett-Evans  
Shelia Hankins

Sarah Heuser  
Mary Lovik  
Julie Lyons  
Karen Porter

**Guests:**

Nancy Getzen – Diane Peppler, St. Ignace  
Mary Gian Norman – YWCA of Greater Flint/SAFE House  
Doreen Howson – Diane Peppler Resource Center, Inc., Sault Ste. Marie  
Mary Keefe – MCADSV  
Jan Mancinelli, Women's Resource Center of Northern MI, Petoskey  
Gail Nelson – Women's Center, Marquette  
Ruth Oja – Hannahville VOCA/STOP/Family Advocacy Program  
Kathy Smithers – Diane Peppler Resource Center, Inc., Sault Ste. Marie

## **BOARD CONSENT**

The September 26, 2003 Michigan Domestic Violence Prevention and Treatment Board (MDVPTB) meeting at the Quality Inn, St. Ignace, MI, convened at 12:30 p.m.

Due to lack of a quorum, the meeting agenda and approval of the May 7, 2003 meeting minutes were not voted on. The approval of the 5/7/03 meeting minutes will be put on the next Board meeting agenda.

## **CHAIR'S REPORT**

### **MJI STOP Proposal**

J. Fink referred the Board to the letter from John Ferry, State Court Administrative Office, requesting that MDVPTB reconsider denial of the portion of their grant application proposing local court mini-grants. After discussion, it was determined that although no Board action was needed, there was consensus that the denial was in accordance with our Ends Statements and that the Board agrees with the decision in principle.

## **Welcome and Introductions**

Introductions were made and a welcome extended to guests.

### **Board Meeting Schedule**

Discussion of next Board Meeting dates and locations. After a review of dates it was determined that D. Cain will poll the Board members to see which dates work best for everyone.

### **Other: Immersion Team**

J. Fink explained that as part of the transition into the new administration, the FIA has had an executive on loan from Delphi Corporation. Each of the FIA lines of service is involved in an Immersion process of identifying customers and services, what they're doing, what they should be doing. It's important to note that the Immersion team that Debi has assembled is not a Board committee, but is a committee appointed by the Executive Director to assist her.

## **POLICY REVIEW OF THE GOVERNING PROCESS**

### **Governing Style, Board Job Description, Annual Board Planning Cycle**

F. Fink recommended that the governing style, Board job description, and annual Board planning cycle be reviewed at the next Board meeting as no action is necessary on these.

## **MONITORING TO ASSURE ORGANIZATIONAL PERFORMANCE**

### **Executive Limitations**

D. Cain reported that the General Executive Constraint lists all of the executive limitations. The Board received a copy of the matrix that gives the dates of when the Board received all reports from this past year. A copy of all of the reports are in the Board Retreat Manual. There's also a blank copy for next year that will be filled in at the Board meetings as we go along.

## **Executive Limitations: Financial Planning & Budgeting**

D. Cain walked the Board through the proposed fiscal year 2004 budget, she discussed the continually tightening federal grant restrictions and the dire economic reality of our limited state dollars. Despite this we have been able to avoid passing cuts to grantees thus far, in recognition of the Board's commitment to victim services.

We also have a pending ½ million dollar award thanks to the great work of MCADSV. M. Keefe reported that the State has been negotiating with the federal government to get the child support enforcement penalty that's pending waived. This would be a one-time payment of money. It has been approved by the legislature, signed by the Governor, and is in the budget, but is dependent on getting the penalty waived. If and when that money comes available, it would allow us to fund several of the unfunded partners of the Safe Haven's/Supervised Visitation Project.

## **Executive Limitations: State Policy Leadership**

Board members discussed that "clearinghouse" may not be the correct word although D. Cain's interpretation is consistent with the Board's intent. S. Mann Gray suggested that the Board change or clarify the word at the next Board meeting. J. Fink stated that it is important that this policy reflect the political and policy realities of the Board's relationship with FIA and other branches of state government. J. Fink suggested that the Governance Committee place the policies related to "public stance" and "clearinghouse" on the agenda of the next Board meeting.

## **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT STOP Plan**

D. Cain stated that this most current draft of the STOP Plan incorporates feedback from prior meetings. D. Cain overviewed the draft STOP Plan. She noted that we have added a section detailing how the MDVPTB implements earmarking and match requirements.

The Honorable Edward Sosnick joined the meeting via speakerphone thereby establishing a quorum.

**MOTION: Moved by S. Mann Gray to approve the FY2004 budget. Seconded by F. Farber. Motion carried.**

**MOTION: Moved by S. Mann Gray to accept and approve the Executive Director's reports regarding General Executive Constraints, Financial Condition, and Budgeting. Seconded by F. Farber. Motion carried.**

**MOTION: Moved by S. Mann Gray to authorize the Chair to communicate support for the decision regarding MJI STOP grant application. Seconded by F. Farber. Motion carried.**

**MOTION: Moved by S. Mann Gray to approve the STOP plan with discussed revisions. Seconded by F. Farber. Motion carried.**

D. Cain reported on the STOP Audit by the State Auditor General. We're one of 19 FIA programs being audited right now. There will be an official finding issued at the end of this calendar year. D. Cain detailed the noted weaknesses and the plans to address them as noted in the letter in the Board packet.

D. Cain wanted the Board to be aware of the audit findings and will keep the Board informed about the ongoing status.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Mary Keefe recognized the incredible leadership of the Board and our outstanding Board members.

Jan Mancinelli, knowing this may be J. Fink and F. Farber's last Board meeting wanted to congratulate and thank both of them for bringing integrity back to the Board.

Gail Nelson commented she would like to thank D. Cain and MCADSV for their hard work fighting for the DV Families 1<sup>st</sup> program. Both are doing a great job.

### **PROCESS EVALUATION**

S. Mann Gray said the meeting went very well and we got a lot accomplished. Thank you to D. Cain and other staff for doing a fine job.

J. Fink commented on the Immersion Process and how it demonstrated that our staff does very good work. We have an excellent staff and have accomplished a lot in the past 4 years. Thank you all very much for your hard work.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting ended at 2:07 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Josie Jubb